

AMERICA'S FAVORITE COMICS

HOPALONG CASSIDY

in 3 Brand New
**ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURES!**



HOPALONG CASSIDY

STARRING
WILLIAM BOYD

DON'T WORRY, PARTNER!
SORRY HON'T LET THEM
BANDITS TAKE YUH
AWAY FROM ME!

POW!

POW!

WHY WOULD OUTLAWS RISK THEIR LIVES
TO STEAL THE SPOCKEN-DOWN BURRO OF
A RETIRED PROSPECTOR WHO NEVER
STRUCK IT RICH? HOPALONG CASSIDY
TACKLES A STRANGE PUZZLE COM-
PLICATED BY SIX-GUN AMBIGUITY --
AND HAS TO DO SOME FANCY FIGHTING
AND SOME FANCIER FLOURISH BEFORE
HE LEARNS...

THE SECRET OF THE
TATTOOED BURRO!

ONE NIGHT, NEAR THE LONELY SANITY OF PICKY
SADDLER, RETIRED PROSPECTOR...

LEAVE THAT BURRO
BE, YUH TWO-TAILED
RASCALS!

HE CAN'T HIT
YUH WHILE HE'S INSIDE
THE SANITY, BUT HE
CAN HIT US! WE GOT
TO LET THIS SULKY
CRITTER GO, AN' FAST!

THE OLD SUZZARD
FOR THIS TIME --
BUT HE'LL COME
BACK!

WAKE! CLOSEST I
EVER COME TO LOVIN'
YUH, PARTNER -- AN'
I'LL MAKE SURE IT
DON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!

HOPALONG CASSIDY is based on the character originated by CLARENCE E. MUIFORD

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HOPALONG CASSIDY



NEXT MORNING, AT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN TRIN RIVERS...

HOPALONG CASSIDY! I BEEN RAIDED BY OIL HOOTERS! I WANT YUH TO CATCH 'EM!

WHAT WERE THEY AFTER, PACKY? DON'T TELL ME YOU FINALLY STRUCK PAY FOR YOUR DIRTY DIRT!

NO SUCH LUCK! THEY'RE AFTER HANK, MY BURRO-- AN' MY PAL!

AUT YOUR BURRO'S WORKING DAYS ARE OVER! WHAT WOULD ANYBODY BUT YOU WANT WITH HIM?

ALL I KNOW IS THEY TRIED HARD TO STEAL HIM! BUT HANK'S DOWN ON HIS FEET--AN' MY BULLETS SORT O' DISCOURAGED 'EM!

I'LL LOOK INTO IT, PACKY! WHERE'S HANK NOW? OUTSIDE?

NO, HANK'S AT MY GHARTY! YUH SEE --

WHAT? IF THOSE OUTLAWS REALLY WANT HIM, THEY'RE PROBABLY STEALING HIM RIGHT NOW! LET'S GO!

ALONG THE TRAIL TO PACKY'S DISGORG...

HANK'S BEEN MY PARTNER SINCE I FOUND HIM ROAMIN' IN THE BADLANDS SEVEN YEARS AGO! IF I HAD TO LOSE HIM --

YOU WON'T, IF I CAN HELP IT!

SUDDENLY...

SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO PREY-SLICH US! GET BEHIND THOSE ROCKS-- QUICK!

DANGER!



HOPALONG CASSIDY



STAY THERE, JACKY, WHILE **TOPPER** AND I SEE IF WE CAN GET IN POSITION FOR A FLANK ATTACK!



THERE THEY ARE, ACROSS THE TRAIL— AND THEY'VE GOT THE BURRO! LET'S GET 'EM, **TOPPER**!



IT'S **CASSIDY**!

PUT UP YOUR HANDS AND WE'LL GIVE BOTH LEAD AND TROUBLE!



BUT AS **TOPPER** STEPS INTO AN UNSEEN POT HOLE...

HE'S DOWN! WE CAN GET AWAY BUT WHAT ABOUT THE BURRO?

FORGET THE BURRO AN' START RIDIN' WINDY, IF YUH DON'T CRAVE TO GO BACK TO JAIL!



HOPPY-- ARE YUH HURT?

JUST MY FEELINGS-- BECAUSE THEY GOT AWAY! BUT HANK'S SAFE--AND SOMETHING TELLS ME I'LL BE MEETING THOSE HORNBOKS AGAIN!



PRESENTLY, AT JACKY'S PLACE...

CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY THEY'RE AFTER HANK! HE'S A HOG-BEEN--EVEN GETTIN' BALD IN SPOTS!

HAHA-- PAINT LINES ACROSS THIS BALD SPOT ON HIS SIDE-- LIKE TATTOOS!





HOPALONG CASSIDY



BLAMED IF IT AINT
TATTOOIN'--A
PICTURE OF SOME
SORT!

REMEMBS ME OF AN
OUTLAW CALLED
'TATTOO' TYLER,
KILLED DURING A
BANK ROBBERY
SEVEN YEARS AGO!
HE'D BEEN A TATTOO
ARTIST BEFORE HE
TOOK UP CRIME!



TYLER'S PAL, WINDY FALLON AND SHANK
BENSON, WERE CAUGHT AND SENT TO PRISON!
THEY'RE OUT ABOUT NOW!

BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO
DO WITH THIS BUSINESS?



TYLER'S GANG WAS ALSO SUSPECTED OF A
\$100,000 TRAIN ROBBERY! THE BLMRTS
KILLED A GUARD AND USED A BARRED TO
TOKE AWAY A SMALL SAFE! BUT THE LOOT
WAS NEVER RECOVERED, AND THERE WASN'T
ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CONVICT THEM!



HANK COULD HAVE BEEN THAT
BURRO, BEFORE YOU FOUND HIM!
AND TYLER COULD HAVE TATTOOED
A MAP ON HIM--LIKE THIS!

WHY, THAT'S
FINGER!
ROCK, AT
THE ENTRANCE
TO BIG MOUTH
CANYON! AND
THE 'X' MUST
SHOW WHERE
THE LOOT WAS
HID!



THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE--BUT I'M NOT SO
SURE THAT'S WHAT IT IS! MIGHT HANK THINKER
IN HIS WORKING DAYS?



NEAR! HE'S GOT TWICE AS BIG
AROUND THE MIDDLE SINCE HE
RETIRED!

THEN THE MAP HAD BEEN
STRETCHED! ORIGINALLY
IT MUST HAVE LOOKED
LIKE THIS!

A ROCK WITH A
SPICE, AN'A LONG
SHINY CANYON!
I'VE SEEN THAT
PLACE, TOO--BUT
CAN'T REMEMBER
JUST WHERE!





HOPALONG CASSIDY





HOPALONG CASSIDY





HOPALONG CASSIDY



CAN HOPALONG PRODUCE THE TRAIN ROBBERY LOOT & PRESENTLY...



FINALLY, NEAR A NARROW CANYON...

GREAT HORNYED TOMPS!
IT'S LIZARD CANYON—
AN' THERE'S THE SPIKED
ROCK FROM THAT SECOND
RAP YUH SKETCHED!

YES--AND
WE OUGHT TO
FIND SOMETHING
INTERESTING
FARTHER ON!



IN THE BRANCH CANYON INDICATED BY THE
"X" ON THE MAP...

A CAVE! IT HAD HIDDEN
BY STONES, BUT THEY'VE
FALLEN AWAY!

THERE'S A SAFE
INSIDE, LIKE THE
ONE HE BROUGHT—
BUT BASTARD
OPEN!



BANKNOTES AN' HARD
CASH! THE TRAIN ROBBERY
LOOT! MORPHY, YUH FOUND IT!

NOT ME,
RICKY! NANK
FOUND IT FOR
ME!



BURROGS HAVE EXCELLENT
MEMORIES! ONCE I REMINDED
NANK OF THE TRAIN ROBBERY,
HE REMEMBERED WHERE HE
WENT AFTERWARD!

SO THAT'S
WHY YUH
SHOWED HIM
THE TRAIN,
LOADED THE
SAFE ON HIM, AN'
FIRED THEM SHOTS!
TO RE-ENACT THE
CRIME!



IT MUST HAVE SEEMED TO HIM
PRETTY MUCH LIKE THE
ORIGINAL ROBBERY!
AND SO HE DID THE SAME
THING HE'D DONE BEFORE!

GOOD OLD HANK!
I'LL BUY HIM A
BUSHEL O' THE
BEST CHOW FOR
THAT!



BUY HIM A CARLOAD
RICKY! THERE'S A \$10000
REWARD, AND YOU'LL GET
IT AS HANK'S OWNER!

WIPPLE! HE'VE
STRUCK PAY
DIRT AT LAST,
HANK! I'LL

FATTEN YUH UP
EVEN MORE—TILL
THAT TATTOOED
MAP OF YOURS
LOOKS LIKE THE
GRAND CANYON!





HOPALONG CASSIDY

STARRING
WILLIAM BOND

THERE'S A TRICK TO THIS—
BUT WHAT IS IT?

BUY ANYTHING IN MY STORE—AND
GET A FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECE FREE!

WHEN FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD COINS ARE OFFERED FREE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ANY ITEM IN A TWIN RIVERS KNUCK-KNACK STORE, HOPALONG CASSIDY IS FACED WITH A BAFFLING PUZZLE. WHAT IS THE SECRET MOTIVE BEHIND THIS EXTRAORDINARY CENERGITY? OR IS THERE SOME DIRM AND EYL DESIGN BEING PLOTTED BY THE MAN STAMPED WITH

THE BRAND OF HATE!

EARLY ONE MORNING THE STREETS OF TWIN RIVERS ARE LINED WITH PEOPLE—EAGERLY AWAITING THE OPENING OF JASON KING'S KNUCK-KNACK STORE...





HOPALONG CASSIDY



EVERYBODY IN TOWN WILL BE HERE TOMORROW, TO WIN A FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECE! THEN WILL COME THE REAL PAY-OFF!



YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT IF I BUY THIS TIN OF BOOT POLISH FOR A DIME--I GET FIVE DOLLARS BACK IN REAL GOLD?

YES, SIR-- HERE IT IS!



MOMENTS LATER...

HEY, AGNS-- DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

THAT STOREKEEPER MUST BE LOOO! COME ON-- LET'S GRAB SOME OF THIS FREE GOLD!



EVEN HOPALONG CASSIDY FINDS HIMSELF DRAWN TO THE UNUSUAL OPENING DAY CEREMONY...

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK OF THIS-- I'M GOING INSIDE...



IT'S REAL GOLD, ALL RIGHT... EVEN IF IT DOES HAVE A PECULIAR TASTE! WELL, NO LAW SAYS A MAN CAN'T GIVE AWAY HIS MONEY IF HE WANTS TO--



BOOH...

WELL, I'LL BE FIRED! I BOUGHT FIFTEEN CENTS' WORTH OF TOBACCO AND GOT MYSELF FIVE DOLLARS! HEY--FELLERS! LOOK AT THIS COIN!





HOPALONG CASSIDY



I'VE SEEN THAT GOLD PIECE BEFORE!

YOU SURE HAKE! IT'S PART OF THE LOOT HE SWOLE FROM THOSE TWO CALIFORNIA HOMBRES! THAT SCOREKEEPER-- HE'S THE SAME MAN HE ROBBED! I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED HIS FACE!



HURRIEDLY, THE THREE MEN GALLOP OUT OF TOWN...

YOU THINK HE FOUND OUT WHERE HE HID THE GOLD?

I AMN'T THINKING! I'M RIDING OUT TO THE CANYE WHERE WE BURIED IT AND MAKE SURE!



AN HOUR LATER, IN AN UNDERGROUND CAVERN SHUTTERING A HIDDEN LAKE...

IT'S GONE, ALL RIGHT! THIS IS THE PLACE HE BURIED THEM CHESTS! KLING FOUND 'EM AND TOOK 'EM WITH HIM!



COME RIGHT WE'LL SAY HONDY TO THIS JASON KLING! AFTER WE ROUGH HIM UP A BIT-- I RECKON HE'LL BE GLAD TO SHOW US WHERE HE HID THE GOLD!



THAT NIGHT, AFTER JASON KLING HAD CLOSED HIS STORE...

UNHAPPY!

HERE'S OUR RECEIPT FOR THE GOLD YOU SWAPED FROM US, KLING!...



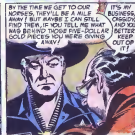
ARE YOU GONNA TALK OR DO WE KEEP THIS LIFE?

I'LL TELL YOU NOTHING!





HOPALONG CASSIDY





HOPALONG CASSIDY



HE'S AS CLOSE-ROUNDED AS A CLAM!
I WAGER I STILL HAVEN'T HEARD OR
SEEN THE END OF THIS EGGHUS AFFAIR!



FIRST TIME I SAW THEM, THEY WERE WEARING
MASKS! IT WAS SOME DAYS AFTER MY BOY
BILL AND I SOLD OUT OUR GOLD MINE IN
CALIFORNIA, AND WITH OUR PURCHASE MONEY
TURNED INTO FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES,
WERE HEADING BACK EAST--



"THOSE THREE BANDITS LET LOOSE WITH THEIR
COLTS. I CAN STILL HEAR THE SOUND, LIKE
THUNDER--"



ALONE, JARON KLING WALKS TO A SMALL
SHACK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN ...

AT LAST--I'VE SEEN THEIR FACES!
ALL THREE OF THEM! I'D KNOW
THEM ANYWHERE NOW!



"THEY RODE UP LATE ONE AFTERNOON,
GONG IN THEIR HANDS..."

WE'LL TAKE A LOOK IN THEIR
CHESTS YOU GOT,
STRANGER!

NO, YOU
WON'T!



"I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT THE GOLD, I
ONLY SAW MY BOY FALL. MAYBE I
BLANKED OUT THEN, BECAUSE THE NEXT
THING I REMEMBER--"





1 FOLLOWED THEM FOR DAYS. I ATE NO FOOD, AND DRANK ONLY WHEN I FOUND A WATERHOLE. THEN, GIM EVERSING ...

THEIR HORSES' STOOD HERE A LONG TIME, ACCORDING TO THESE TRACKS! BUT WHY? THERE'S NO WATER OR ANYTHING ELSE TO KEEP THOSE KILLERS HERE ...



THE EARTH IS SOFT HERE. JUST RECENTLY DUG UP AND THROWN BACK INTO PLACE! I CAN SEE SOMETHING DOWN THERE—ONE OF MY CRESTS! THE CRESTS THAT HOLD MY FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES!



REVENGE—THAT'S ALL I LIVE FOR NOW. SOON I'LL FIND THEM AGAIN, AND THIS TIME, I'LL HAVE A GUN IN MY HAND! I'LL SHOOT THEM DOWN AS THEY SHOT DOWN MY SON!



2 HUNTING AROUND FOR ALMOST AN HOUR, I FINALLY FOUND THE ANSWER ...

A CLEVERLY CONCEALED ENTRANCE TO A MOUNTAIN CAVE! THIS IS WHERE THEY WENT!



I FOUND THOSE CRESTS, SO NO ONE BUT MYSELF COULD FIND THEM! THEN I FOLLOWED THE KILLERS' TRACKS TO TWO RIVERS! I FIGURED OUT THAT SCHEME OF GIVING AWAY FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES TO MAKE MYSELF A TARGET, SO THEY'D MAKE A PLAY FOR ME. INSTEAD, TO KILL THEM TO AVENGE MY SON'S MURDER!



MEANWHILE, THE THREE KILLERS GO INTO HIDING. BUT ALWAYS ONE OF THEM KEEPS AN EYE ON JASON KLING. THEN ONE MORNING ...

COME ON! KLING'S COME TO HIS STORE! HIS SHACK IS EMPTY! IF HE HAD THE GOLD THERE, HE GOT ALL DAY TO FIND IT!





HIT NIGHT WHEN JASON RETURNS HOME...

HA! HA! HA! THEY SEARCHED MY PLACE AND DIDN'T FIND THE GOLD! GOOD! THAT MEANS THEY'RE WATCHING ME! NOW I'LL RIDE OUT TO WHERE I HID THE GOLD--LEAD THEM THERE--THEN KILL THEM WHEN THEY COME IN, ONE BY ONE!



IN THE CAVE, SOMEWHAT LATER...

I HID MY CHESTS IN THIS UNDERGROUND CAVE LAKE! B-BUT NOW THEY AREN'T HERE!



SUDDENLY...

SO THAT'S WHERE YOU HID YOUR GOLD, KLING --IN THE LAKE! HE GOT YOU OUTNUMBERED, THREE TO ONE! AND DON'T COUNT ON ANY HELP! HE MADE SURE **NOMBODY** FOLLOWED US FROM TOWN!



BUT IT'S TRUE! SOMEBODY ELSE FOUND THE CHESTS AND TOOK THEM!

STOP STALLING, KLING! NOBODY EVEN KNEW ABOUT THE CHESTS BUT **US**! EITHER YOU TALK, OR...



ABRUPTLY, A GRIM FIGURE HURTLES FROM A LEDGE ABOVE THE LAKE...

I KNEW ABOUT THE CHESTS, YOU KILLERS! I CAME AND TOOK THEM AWAY!

HOPALONG CASSIDY! HOW'D HE GET HERE? HE DIDN'T FOLLOW US FROM TOWN!



I DIDN'T FOLLOW YOU! I GOT HERE AHEAD OF YOU, AND AHEAD OF KLING! I KNEW YOU'D ALL COME HERE SOONER OR LATER, TO LOOK FOR THAT GOLD--



